

he bases his calculations upon the customs figures. I really could not follow the question of my hon. friend.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: May I know if it is a fact that statistics regarding overseas trade are not compiled and published exclusively by our customs authorities but that the foreign chambers of commerce also publish these statistics on the basis of information they derive on account of their virtual monopoly to issue measurement certificates?

Shri Karmarkar: In the first place, I should like to find out what is the present position with regard to statistics. There has been a complaint from certain Indian chambers that certain foreign shipping companies which are sending goods from India and are importing also into India are not accepting the measurement certificates issued by the purely Indian chambers of commerce. This has been a serious question and we have been devoting our attention to that problem with a view to see that Indian Chambers of commerce are not put to handicaps like that.

Shri Bansal: Is it not a fact that some European chambers of commerce are in a position for a large number of years to issue special statistics out of custom returns? Is the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, not one of them? As regards the question under (a), (b) and (c), the reply of the hon. Minister was that this matter has been under consideration. Is it a fact that this matter is under consideration for the last four years and no effective steps have been taken so far?

Shri Karmarkar: It is a fact that this matter has been under our consideration for four years. My hon. friend is well aware of this question; he is also aware of every step that has been taken. We have also consulted the Federation which he represents and I suppose he knows that he and I tread on rather delicate ground in pursuing that question further.

DYE-HOUSE IN YEMMIGANUR

***2424. Shri Gadilingana Gowd:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Yemmiganur Co-operative Weavers Production and Sale Society of Andhra State has asked for a grant of Rs. 36,000 from the All India Handloom Board to equip its dye-house; and

(b) if so, at what stage the matter stands?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). No such request has been received from the Society. Government have, however, given a grant of Rs. 38,520 during 1953-54 to the Andhra State Government for setting up of dye-houses in that State. One of them, I understand is at Yemmiganur.

Shri Gadilingana Gowd: May I know whether it is a fact that preferential treatment is being given to this Society, because its President is a member of the All India Handloom Board?

Shri Karmarkar: One of the considerations why we wanted him on the Handloom Board is that he represented a very good Society at Yemmiganur. It is not the other way.

Shri Gadilingana Gowd: Will Government please make an enquiry under section 38 of the Madras Co-operative Societies Act?

Shri Karmarkar: I am not aware of that. If my friend writes to me I will look into it.

FORWARD CONTRACTS (REGULATION) ACT

***2425. Shri M. M. Gandhi:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act has come into force and if so, from which date;

(b) whether any forward market has been brought within the purview